- Broadcasters and Multi-System Operators would benefit from the reduction of revenue leakage associated with the current subscriber under declaration.

The report has focused on the impact and implementation of CAS in India and concludes with recommendations for a consumer-friendly, business-focused deployment of CAS.

Schemes for CBFC

805. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of allocating funds during the year 2002-03 on account of schemes for the Central Board of Film Certification, Government could not sanction even a single scheme; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) NO, Sir. The Plan Scheme of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) titled "Monitoring and Moderation of Certification Process" having in principle approval of Planning Commission, was sanctioned in the financial year 2002-03.

Policy for entertainment sector

806. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring an entertainment policy to facilitate the growth of entertainment sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government also propose to give renewed thrust by enhancing the programme content on Doordarshan and Akashvani; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is concerned with

entertainment through cinema as well as the broadcasting mediums. This sector depends for its growth on an ambience—in terms of institutional, legal and financial arrangements and technological developments—which allows creativity and spontaneity to flourish. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to review policies whether of the Central or State Governments impacting on the sector and to take/recommend action to facilitate growth.

Some measures taken in the recent past include declaring entertainment industry as an approved activity under the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) Act, liberalization of the foreign investmment regime for films and TV software, development of film markets abroad, recommendation and steps for reduction of entertainment tax, encouragement for multiplexes, liberalization of uplinking policy for TV channels, licences for private FM broadcasting and allowing DTH in the private sector.

Schemes for content creation for Jammu & Kashmir, North East and for funding of quality programmes have been included in the Tenth Plan.

Introduction of CAS

807. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reason for introducing the CAS for more than 44 million TV viewers, is the pressure exerted by the set top box importer lobby;

(b) the reasons for Government succumbing to the pressure of the channel operators and cable operators and postponing the CAS launch to 1st September, 2003;

(c) unlike the fora of cable operators and channel operators with whom Government are engaging in a dialogue, which forum represents interests of 44 million TV viewers all over the country; and

(d) whether Government have involved the Consumer (Viewers) Forum in its negotiations?